

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231 WWW.USPIO.GOV

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In re Application of

Lars E. French et al

Serial No.: 09/419,262

Filed: October 12, 1999

Attorney Docket No.: 11141/003001

: PETITION DECISION

This is a decision on the informal Petition under 37 CFR 1.181, filed August 14, 2002, to Withdraw Holding of Abandonment based on non-receipt an Office action.

A review of the file history shows that the Office mailed an Office action to applicants on November 29, 2001, setting a three month shortened statutory period for reply. Upon failure to receive a reply the application became technically abandoned although no Notice of Abandonment has yet been mailed to applicants. Applicants state that the Office action was not received and provide statements and copies of docket records and mail logs establishing non-receipt of the Office action. In view of the statements and evidence presented it is concluded that applicants did not receive the Office action. In view thereof, the abandoned status is withdrawn and the application restored to pending status with the mailing of this decision.

Applicants' petition is **GRANTED**.

The application will be forwarded to the examiner for prompt remailing of the Office action.

Should there be any questions with respect to this decision, please contact William R. Dixon, Jr., by mail addressed to: Director, Technology Center 1600, Washington, D.C. 20231, or by telephone at (703)308-3824 or by facsimile transmission at (703) 305-7230.

Fasemine C. Chambers

Director, Technology Center 1600